PATENT

Attorney Docket :
33216 M 048.1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Hiroshi NAKATSUKA, et al.

Serial No. : Unassigned (Division of 09/588,079) Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: May 11, 2001 Group Art Unit : Unassigned

For: PIEZOELECTRIC TRANSFORMER, PIEZOELECTRIC TRANSFORMER DRIVE CIRCUIT, PIEZOELECTRIC TRANSFORMER DRIVE METHOD AND COLD CATHODE TUBE DRIVE APPARATUS USING PIEZOELECTRIC TRANSFORMER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION :

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments to the specification on page 1 thereof, as shown on the attached sheets.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-13 and 16-38, without prejudice.

REMARKS

This is a divisional application of pending application Serial No. 09/588,079.

Claims 1-13 and 16-38 are cancelled by this Preliminary Amendment.

The specification is amended on page 1 to include reference to the parent application.

Applicants submit that the divisional application is now in condition for examination on the merits and early action in that regard is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____

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Date : May 11, 2001

AMENDED SPECIFICATION

SPECIFICATION

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Piezoelectric transformer, piezoelectric transformer drive circuit, piezoelectric transformer drive method and cold cathode tube drive apparatus using piezoelectric transformer

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a division of application Serial No. 09/588,079 filed June 5, 2000, which is incorporated herein, in its entirety, by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a piezoelectric transformer, a piezoelectric transformer drive circuit and a piezoelectric transformer drive method used for various high-voltage generation apparatuses.

Furthermore, the present invention relates to a cold cathode tube drive apparatus using a piezoelectric transformer used for various high-voltage generation apparatuses, more particularly to a cold cathode tube drive apparatus using a piezoelectric transformer having sensor electrodes provided independently of primary and secondary electrodes.

2. Related art of the Invention

FIG.B18 shows the structure of a Rosen-type piezoelectric transformer, a typical structure of a conventional piezoelectric transformer. This piezoelectric transformer has the advantages that it can be made more compact than an electromagnetic

'MARKED UP' SPECIFICATION

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